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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/811,110

03/26/2004

Takahiro Mori

03331D/HG

9221

1933

7590

10/20/2004

FRISHAUF, HOLTZ, GOODMAN & CHICK, PC  
767 THIRD AVENUE  
25TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10017-2023

EXAMINER

CULLER, JILL E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2854

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/811,110

Applicant(s)

MORI, TAKAHIRO

Examiner

Jill E. Culler

Art Unit

2854



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-12 and 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10, 11 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/456,240.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>20040326</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 10 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,321,651 to Tice et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,526,746 to Capdeboscq.

With respect to claim 10, Tice et al. teaches a method of fixing a planographic printing plate precursor, 18, on a plate cylinder, 20, of a printing press capable of forming an image on the plate cylinder, the surface of the plate cylinder having orifices or grooves, 47, to obtain reduced pressure by suction, the method comprising the steps of mounting the planographic printing plate precursor on the plate cylinder and applying suction to the planographic printing plate precursor through the orifices or grooves to fix the planographic printing plate precursor on the surface of the plate cylinder. See column 4, lines 23-31.

Tice et al. does not teach that the orifices or grooves exist only at a portion corresponding to the peripheral portion of an image formation region in the planographic printing plate precursor.

Capdeboscq teaches a method of fixing a printing plate, 1, on a printing cylinder, 7, by applying suction to the plate through orifices or grooves, 5, which exist only at a

portion corresponding to the peripheral portion of an image formation region in the printing plate. See column 4, line 43 - column 5, line 10 and Figures 3-4.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to locate the grooves of Tice et al. only at a portion corresponding to the peripheral portion of an image formation region as taught by Capdeboscq in order to minimize the number of grooves required while still applying adequate fixing suction to the plate.

With respect to claim 20, Tice et al. teaches the plate cylinder surface, 22, is comprised of a detachable material. It should be noted that the broad language of this claim does not limit the structure, as any material could be considered to be detachable.

3. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tice et al. in view of Capdeboscq as applied to claims 10 and 20 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,492,059 to Reichel.

Tice et al. and Capdeboscq teach all that is claimed, as in the above rejection of claims 10 and 20, except that the peripheral portion is outside register marks.

Reichel teaches a method of fixing a printing plate on a plate cylinder using register marks, where the marks are located inside a defined edge area of the printing surface. See column 3, lines 37-42.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, as taught by Reichel, to locate register marks inside the printing area, and therefore inside the peripheral portion of the printing plate, of the invention of Tice et al.

as modified by Capdeboscq, in order to accurately locate the printing plate precursor on the plate cylinder.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claim 12 is allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not teach or render obvious a method of fixing a planographic printing plate precursor on a plate cylinder as claimed, particularly wherein the plate precursor comprises a back coat layer which contains a light heat conversion material.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent No. 4,833,985 to Kojima et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,894,319 to Okamura et al., and U.S. Patent No. 6,213,020 to Kawada et al. each teach a method of fixing a printing plate having obvious similarities to the claimed subject matter.

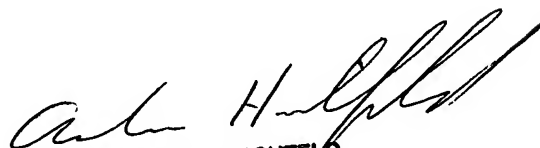
Art Unit: 2854

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jill E. Culler whose telephone number is (571) 272-2159. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

jec

  
ANDREW H. HIRSHFELD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800